

THE DAILY DEMOCRAT.

VOLUME IV

DECATUR, INDIANA, SATURDAY EVENING, MARCH 31, 1906.

NUMBER 92

BOSTON WESTON IS GUILTY

Convicted of Involuntary Manslaughter This Morning

PRISON SENTENCE

Murder of R. J. Holthouse is Vindicated

Jury Returned Verdict at 9:30 This Morning After Being Out Thirty-Seven Hours.

Huntington, Ind., March 31.—The jury in the Boston Weston case returned a verdict at 9:30 this morning, finding the defendant guilty of involuntary manslaughter. This makes the penalty a term of from two to twenty-one years in the penitentiary at Michigan City. The jury was out thirty-seven hours.

The death of Roman J. Holthouse has been avenged so far as is possible on this earth. As may be seen from the above dispatch the jury has done their duty and the people of Decatur are satisfied. The greatest interest had been manifested by our citizens and hundreds of inquiries came to this office yesterday and today concerning the outcome. Roman Holthouse was one of the most popular men in this city, and no difference what effort was made by John Branigan or others to injure his reputation, the deceased will always be remembered here as a kind hearted and generous husband, father and citizen. He was given his death blow at Huntington just two months ago, when Boston Weston, without any provocation, felled him with a terrific blow that fractured his skull. The promptness of the Huntington county court in meting out justice is to be commended. The trial began Monday morning and the case went to the jury at 8:30 Thursday evening. The first ballot showed eight for conviction and four for acquittal. Yesterday morning two changed, making the vote ten to two for conviction. The two held out until this morning when they voted for a conviction for involuntary manslaughter as a compromise, voluntary manslaughter being asked for by the others. Just why any one who heard the evidence could vote for an acquittal is hard to say, but perhaps we have no right to judge. The relatives and friends are pleased with the verdict because they believe it just and right that Boston Weston suffer for his awful crime, but more than all they are pleased because the verdict is a vindication of the unjust charges made against one whom we loved and admired and who is not here to defend himself. The defendant will ask for a new trial and if refused may appeal his case to the supreme court, but in the meantime he will have to go to prison.

Teachers Adjoinrn.

By United Press News Association. Indianapolis, March 31.—The thirteenth annual meeting of the Indiana Teachers' association closed this morning with a general meeting. It was the most successful meeting ever held.

A COMMISSION

Will be Granted to the Ossian High School This Year.

In another year the people of Ossian will see one of their dearest ambitions realized. The High school, located in that city and long noted for the quality of work turned out, will be granted a commission and this is the thing that has been so long striven for. While the Ossian High school is one of the largest in the county, it is not commissioned, although the work done is above reproach. However good the work may be, there are certain requirements that must be lived up to by a school in order that a commission may be obtained. One of these rules is that the high school terms all last for a period of at least eight months. Trustee Gosbom has granted to the people in charge of the school the right to have an eight months' term the next school year and patrons are well pleased because of this fact. All arrangements have been made for properly showing up the work of the school and securing the commission. There is a considerable advantage to the graduates of a high school in having that school commissioned. Their diploma is good at nearly all the leading colleges of the state for admission without conditioned work or without passing a hard examination. At one or two schools it permits a degree being given and the work being finished in three years instead of four.

GOOD MAJORITY

Macadam Road Election Carries in Union

The Ahr, Bleeke, Hart, Schamerloh and Stegmeyer Roads Carry by Good Majority.

The citizens of Union township are progressive and demonstrated that progressiveness in their macadam road selections in a very handsome way. They voted on five macadam roads, the vote being:

Ahr road—Yes 85, no 52; majority 33.

Bleeke road—Yes 97, no 47; majority 50.

Hart road—Yes 94, no 48; majority 46.

Schamerloh road—Yes 95, no 45; majority 50.

Stegmeyer road—Yes 97, no 39; majority 58.

There was a total of one hundred and fifty-five votes polled and the majority in favor the improvements is a good two to one. The weather was bad, a continuous downpour of rain continuing throughout the entire day, and as a result the vote is nearly one hundred short of the entire electorate of the township. Had they all voted the majority in favor of this, the best improvement ever undertaken by the township, would have been greater. As soon as the result of the election can be lawfully transferred to commissioners' court, at least two of the roads can be sold and perhaps built yet this year.

DIED TODAY

John Nix Answers Final Call After Long Illness.

John Nix, a well known resident of the city, died at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon. He had been in poor health for several years and had been confined at home for four months, with stomach and lung trouble. He became much worse this morning and gradually sank into the long sleep of death. He was employed at this office for many years and was an industrious, faithful employee. He leaves a wife and one son, besides many other friends. The funeral arrangements had not been completed as we go to press.

NEXT WEEK

Missionary Ladies to Meet in Decatur

At Presbyterian Church—Forty Delegates to Attend—Some of the Prominent Speakers.

The meeting of the Missionary Ladies of the Northeastern Indiana Presbytery will be held here next week. About fifty delegates will be present and the public is invited to attend each session. The meetings will be held Wednesday afternoon and evening. Mrs. Herbert Campbell, synodical vice-president of Newton, Indiana, will give a lecture Wednesday evening, April 4. She has studied piano work in New Mexico and her lecture will be both instructive and interesting. Miss Grace Curtis Glenn of Fort Wayne, a returned missionary from Japan, will talk to the Christian Endeavors at 4 o'clock, Wednesday afternoon. These two ladies will be in the city for only a few hours. Don't fail to hear them. Another speaker will be Dr. Mary Bradford, a medical missionary from Labriz, Persia. She annually treats about 8,000 patients, making 1,000 visits. Never a moment is lost, for not only healing the body but providing a cure for the "sin sick soul" as well. Decatur people should by all means attend these meetings.

HAS TRAVELED

Dr. Fowler Has Been on Other Exploring Trips.

Dr. Fowler, the Bluffton man who is to join Walter Wellman on his trip in search of the north pole, has already had some experiences of more than ordinary interest. He went to Africa with Bishop Hartzell of the M. E. church, going in the interests of medicine. The church has number of missions in Africa, and sent the doctor there to study the needs, etc. After arriving in the country he visited the different missions and studied the needs of the natives and missions as regards medicine and treatment. He came to this city four months after returning from Africa. Dr. Fowler graduated from Michigan University at Ann Arbor in the year 1889. After graduating he practiced medicine in Bay City, Michigan, for four years. He then returned to Ann Arbor, where he took a position as superintendent of the hospital in the medical department of the school.

PLOT THICKENS

Brothers of Murdered Ed Voght Were in Jail

One of Them Wanted at Bryant for Running a Pool Room Without a License.

Clarence and Emanuel Voght, brothers of Ed Voght, who was murdered Tuesday night in his own home at Montpelier by Green Street, spent Thursday night in the Blackford county jail with Street. Officer C. L. Walker of Jay county, arrested Clarence, who is wanted for running a pool room at Bryant without a license and Sheriff Hudson arrested Emanuel, who has been wanted for some time on two charges—selling liquor without a license and allowing minors in his saloon. Last Monday Judge LaFollette of Portland, upheld a remonstrance against the sale of liquor in Berne. That night the saloon force held a rallying meeting. It was proposed that the whole party visit Editor Rohrer and "get even." George Nichols, a 300-pounder, asked that the job be left to him alone. The others concurred and a personal encounter between Rohrer and Nichols followed. The editor, who is slight in stature, was almost unconscious when rescued. Attorney Lewis recalled that after the attempt to dynamite Rohrer's home was made the editor told his wife that if she thought best he would abandon the temperance fight, whereupon Mrs. Rohrer vehemently exclaimed that she would far prefer to be the widow of a dead hero than the wife of a living coward.

UP IN G

Geneva Knights Do Things Up Right

Geneva Traction Company Hold a Meeting—The Wabash River on a Rampage.

LITTLE BOY DEAD

Freddie Williams, Four Years Old, a Victim of Lung Trouble.

Freddie, the four years old son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Williams, who reside at Steele's park, died this morning at four o'clock after an illness lasting two weeks, death resulting from lung fever. The little fellow contracted a heavy cold some time ago and could not get rid of it, although he was given the best of care and attention. The funeral services will be held Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock at the home, Rev. Luke officiating, and interment will be made in the Reynolds cemetery.

INTEREST LAGS

Marion County Republicans Held a Convention.

Special Telegram to The Democrat Indianapolis, March 31.—Interest lagged in the republican county convention here today. Leonard Quill was nominated for clerk, J. E. Robert Bryson for auditor, Charles Benedict for prosecutor, H. W. Klaneman for surveyor, Ed Robinson for treasurer, John Menhall for commissioner and Vincent Carter for superior judge.

WELL AND HAPPY

Is the Message Fred Rohrer Sends to Indianapolis.

Indianapolis, March 31.—"Praise God, we won, and our victory was celebrated by another attack on me in my office." But it's all over again and we are well and happy." This is the message received by J. F. Lewis, attorney of the Anti-Saloon League of Indiana, from Fred Rohrer, an editor of Berne, Ind., who was assaulted early this week by saloon rowdies because of his temperance utterances. This was the third attack made upon Editor Rohrer. Twice he was seriously assaulted and an attempt was made once to blow up his home with dynamite. The fight between the saloon and temperance forces has been bitter and Rohrer has been one of the saloon's most aggressive foes. Last Monday Judge LaFollette of Portland, upheld a remonstrance against the sale of liquor in Berne. That night the saloon force held a rallying meeting. It was proposed that the whole party visit Editor Rohrer and "get even." George Nichols, a 300-pounder, asked that the job be left to him alone. The others concurred and a personal encounter between Rohrer and Nichols followed. The editor, who is slight in stature, was almost unconscious when rescued. Attorney Lewis recalled that after the attempt to dynamite Rohrer's home was made the editor told his wife that if she thought best he would abandon the temperance fight, whereupon Mrs. Rohrer vehemently exclaimed that she would far prefer to be the widow of a dead hero than the wife of a living coward.

Hooper & Lenhart have filed a new suit in circuit court entitled Preston Orr vs Rose C. Smiley, Lewis Smiley, Joseph M. Minch and Jacob E. Martin, suit on note and to set aside a fraudulent conveyance, demand \$250. The summons was made returnable April 12.

Judge Erwin is still busy in the Allen circuit court and there was no business transacted here today.

Next week is the closing one of the February term of court, the April term following immediately, beginning one week from Monday.

The grand jury will be called next week and will meet one week from Monday to investigate the wrong doings of this community. It's about time for some of the boys to make their visit to distant friends.

Commissioners H. R. Mots and L. L. Dunbar will meet next week, probably on Tuesday, to select the petit and grand jurors for the April term of court.

Several Decatur lawyers will go to Portland Monday to appear in the Bolds' case. It is claimed that Bolds still owes the county about \$1,800 and his suit is to collect same. C. J. Lutz represents the county.

OFFICERS ELECTED

D. E. Smith Chosen as Exalted Ruler of Elks.

The Elks' lodge met at evening and elected the following officers who will handle the welfare of the lodge and to keep right up and abreast of the times the local order of Knights here has secured a stethoscope outfit to be used in the initiatory work. The outfit assists very much in this work and is a splendid addition to the lodge. A class of fifteen new members is now being prepared for initiation and several more prospectives are in sight. It is the purpose of the lodge to make its membership reach the one hundred mark.

That the Geneva Traction company is far from being a thing of the past is evidenced from the fact that a meeting has been called for all stockholders for the purpose of electing directors and transacting other business. The meeting is to be held April 4 and that is the date for the annual election of officers but it is the "other business" which the people are most interested in. It is rumored that there is something of importance in the wind.

The old Wabash river and the "job" ditch are simply raising Cain. Both are out of banks and the back water has covered acres and acre of land. While the high waters are nothing like they were two years ago yet they are high enough to do considerable damage to lands bordering their course. A few more days like Friday and there will certainly be water, water everywhere, and all too muddy to drink.

In Paul Kraus's Stable This Morning by J. A. Rice.

By United Press News Association.

Indianapolis, March 31.—The screams of a woman attracted the attention of a colored boy in a stable at the rear of Paul Kraus' residence, today. The boy ran and notified the police, asserting that he had seen J. A. Rice strike Anna Miller with an axe, crushing her skull and then leaving her in a stall. The police found the woman, the bloody axe lying by her side. The woman was taken to the city hospital. Rice escaped.

WOMAN ASSAULTED